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No. 12

FLOWER MISSIONS AND THEIR WORK

"PLEASE gimme a flower?"

The voice was faint and timid, for it came from a little, crippled boy who was leaning on his crutches and looking wistfully at the passers-by. The school girl with book, satchel, and a large bouquet of flowers, stopped, pulled some sweet scented blossoms from her nosegays, and gave them to the lad.

As she started on her way again, a sigh and an earnest whisper, "O Johnnie! do you s'pose she would gimme one?" attracted her attention. Turning about she saw standing close beside her half a dozen eager-faced, bright-eyed little waifs, and coming from all directions were children who seemed to spring like mushrooms out of the ground.

There is a momentary shadow on the fair young face, a little hesitation and reluctance. The beautiful flowers are for her teacher, of whom she is very fond. If she gives them to these children she must go empty-

handed to the school room,—and how can she do it? She looks away down the street to think for a moment, and her eyes fall upon a hydrant and a beautiful woman who is holding a cup of water to the lips of an old beggar whose palsied hands cannot grasp it.

"A cup of cold water." How often she has heard that. May be the flowers are like a cup of cold water to these little souls thirsting for the beauty which brick and mortar and poverty have long since driven out of their part of the busy city. There is no shadow on her face now, no hesitation, and soon she has not even a leaf left of all the lovely collection; but twenty-five or thirty happy children are shouting and exclaiming and smiling and crooning over their treasures.

There were tears in the teacher's eyes when she heard the story, and one little girl went to her seat with a lump in her throat that didn't get there because of unhappiness.

That night the child said, "Mamma, I didn't take the flowers to my teacher. The little beggar children wanted them so badly that I gave them all away."

"Very well," replied the mother, "take more tomorrow; then you will have enough for children and teacher too."

A few days later the little girl carried a basketful of flowers, and soon a maid went a part of the way, to help carry the bouquets and posies for the groups of waifs who swarmed around the little missionary. Some-

times old women came for some flowers which reminded them of the old home of their childhood, and sometimes flushed and vicious faces grew pale and sad as they bent over the fresh, bright, sweet scented flowers. The daily distribution became known to benevolent people, and soon there was a movement toward organization, and a place where flowers could be sent by those who could not bring them.

A little blossom given by a school girl to a crippled boy in the streets of London was the beginning of the flower mission. So many were its possibilities for good that the fame of it soon spread abroad, and other cities took up the idea and carried on the delightful work with enthusiasm. Many Sunday and day school teachers give their scholars seeds and plants from which to raise flowers, to be brought in on certain days for distribution among those less fortunate and the sick. These can be found in almost every town and city, and the idea is worth extending everywhere.

In our own country Boston established the first, and New York City the second mission, which is now in a most flourishing condition, with



THE BEGINNING OF THE FLOWER MISSION.

rooms at 104 East Twentieth Street. *Demorest's Magazine* says: The New York flower mission is the largest in the United States, nearly twelve thousand bouquets having been distributed from its headquarters in a single day. In addition to the flowers there are fruits, jellies, preserves, delicacies of all sorts, fresh eggs, vegetables, and milk, which are given out through regularly appointed district visitors, bible readers and city missionaries. Contributions come in from all parts of the surrounding country, as well as from friends in the city, and all packages and parcels are taken by the various express companies and delivered, free of all charges, at the rooms of the mission. Baskets bearing the name

and address of the sender, painted in distinct letters on the sides or cover, are returned to the owners, carriage free. So much for the business points of this interesting charity. Let us now look at the suggestive, pathetic, elevating, and refining side of the subject.

If the nineteenth century "doubting Thomas" has any scepticism as to whether the love for flowers exists in the breasts of the poverty burdened, dirt-begrimed masses of the dwellers in the tenement house districts of the city of New York (or of any city), let him or her take a



ON THE WAY FROM THE FERRY.

bunch of brilliant blossoms and walk through the streets of the downtown wards. Eager eyes will beam from every direction, little feet will patter on every side, and voices pitched in all keys, from the timid and entreating, to the importunate and saucy, will cry, "Please give me a flower?"

The flower mission in New York has attained much of its present growth through the efforts of those residents of suburban localities who, in their continual coming and going, have learned how dear to the hearts of the children of the poor are those beauties of nature from which they are entirely shut out. The enthusiastic little faces and voices led the more thoughtful to ask themselves how much more important flowers and greenery would be to the little sufferers in the hospitals, than to the well children who can seek amusements and pleasures for themselves.

The simplest form of flower mission work is the street distribution, which is, as a rule, an unmixed pleasure. The almost wild delight of the *gamin* over a few flowers has led many persons who go regularly into the city to make it a point to carry as many flowers as possible, expressly for the purpose of distributing them right and left as they go to their places of business. The streets leading from the various fer-

ries and railroad stations run for the most part through districts inhabited by the poor, who fairly swarm in the old buildings and in the upper stories of houses occupied on the lower floors as business places. From these the children issue in groups and squads, ever restless, and continually on the alert for something new to engage their attention. To them the flower-laden arrival is a never-failing source of anticipation and pleasure. The dancing eyes, the outstretched hands, the pattering feet, the eager entreaties for 'just one flower, please,' are cer-

tain to bring a smile, and a feeling of warmth to the most indifferent heart, and to emphasize the oft-repeated assertion that if city children do really take such pleasure in flowers, those whose gardens are full of them should take a little pains to see that some of them find their way to these little ones. Their lives are passed in the dust and dullness of brick and mortar environment, and they may never have had a taste of genuine country air in all their short existence. A triangle of iron-fenced sod with a few

bushes, or a bit of park, is the only suggestion of outside life which ever comes to them.

To such as these a few fresh flowers or tender leaves are more than country dwellers can imagine. They even gather up the oats and other grain from the ground where horses have scattered them from their feed boxes or bags, and after planting them in tin cans filled with sand from some neighboring mortar bed, they tend and water them with the utmost care, rejoiced if at length tiny shoots of green spring up to relieve the dull gray and brown of their



IN A ROW ON THE CURBSTONE.

wretched homes. Cans of such green are frequently noted in the windows of even the lowest tenements, where possibly they flourish side by side with a stray slip of geranium, or maybe a rose or hyacinth. For the finer flowers are appreciated, as many a visitor can bear witness. "They speak of hope to the fainting heart, With a voice of promise they come and part, They sleep in dust through the wintry hours, They break forth in glory—bring flowers, bring flowers!"

(To be continued next month.)

THE WHITE DAY LILY.

THERE are day lilies and day lilies, but the day lily *par excellence* is the white day lily, *Funkia grandiflora alba*. Not a dozen other plants can be found that combine as many merits and as few faults. Its foliage is handsome, its flowers uncommonly beautiful, its culture of the easiest. It is perfectly hardy and never fails to produce a profuse and long continuous crop of fragrant flowers that come at a



time when nearly all the true lilies are through blooming. It ought to be considered as indispensable to a yard as is the lilac or the rose. It is one of the few flowers I like to recommend to busy women who love flowers but are obliged to neglect them for their household and children. All a plant of the white day lily asks is root room in fair soil; it will do the rest. I have seen a two-year-old clump that never had twenty minutes care given to it, that produced over two hundred flowers in the season, and how could one ask for a lovelier flower? A little smaller, but much resembling the old garden favorite, *Lilium candidum*, its snow white

chalice perfumes the air, day after day, week after week, as fast as one blossom fades another

taking its place. For a long time we, as a people, failed to appreciate perennials, now we begin to see their great value, and I prophesy that the time will soon come when the bulk of every household's planting will be of those tried and true perennials that give a maximum of beauty for a minimum expenditure of time and labor. In that glad time we will expect to see in every flower border a great clump of our fragrant favorite, the white day lily.

Pineville, Mo.

L. S. LAMANCE.

"I LOVE THE WOODS."

A SONG.

I love the woods.

Oh, give me but that crag of rock
On which to build my simple cot,
And I'll not ask for palaces,
Nor murmur at my lonely lot.

I do not need the silken garb,
The cushioned couch, or seasoned food;
I do not need the tongue of men
To voice the word that "Life is good."

I do not need the amber scent,
The honeyed smile and tutored song,
Or crowd of glittering sycophants
That in the halls of Croesus throng.

I love the woods.

When o'er the distant line of hills
The rosy morning peeps its head,
And stars that through the night have watched,
Now quench their light and go to bed,

I rise from couch of perfumed pine
And seek the purling brook that flows
Between its fringe of velvet moss,
Where tiny turquoise blossom blows.

I need no marble fountain rare
To purify and lave and clean,
And when I say my grateful prayer,
'Tis in His mighty dome of green.

I love the woods.

My silent friend, my faithful dog,
The horse that hastens to my call,
The birds that sing above my head—
They constitute my all in all.

I breathe the forest's filtered air,
The breeze that cools the mountain brow,
The snow-clad summit's atmosphere,
And praise the Lord I'm living now!

I love the woods.

—Richard Mansfield, in *Harper's Weekly*.

JUST HOW TO CAN CORN.

I WOULD like to tell how I have canned corn successfully for the past three years. I use Mason's Improved Jar and am always particular to have new rubbers for corn each year. Press as much corn as possible into the can—I have a wooden pestle that I use for the purpose. Wipe off the top of the can, place on the rubber, screw on the cover as tight as possible, and enclose each can in a bag of cotton cloth that comes to the neck of the can, this prevents breaking. Put two or three layers of cloth in the bottom of the boiler, stand in the cans closely (my boiler holds 13), cover with cold water and boil four hours. Keep the boiler nearly full by adding hot water as it boils away. Let the cans remain under water till cool enough to handle, which is usually over night, then remove the bags, tighten the bands, wipe the can dry, wrap in paper, and put away in a cool dark place.

FRANCETTE.

Oakland, Maine.

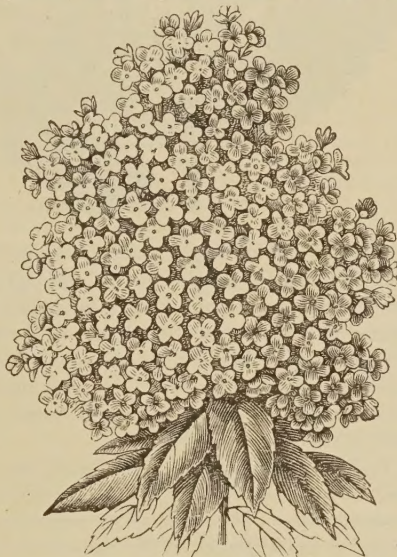
A BEAUTIFUL BED.

"NOW, that is what I call boss!" And my other half leaned back in his chair, looking so pleased that I forgave the slang on the spot and inquired as to what he referred. "That bed of white hydrangeas," said he, "set in a cloud of scarlet montbretias. The montbretia blossoms glow like fire against the snowy white of the hydrangeas, and just as far as you see the place you can catch their gleam. It is the first thing that greets my eye as I come home from my business. Every day someone asks me the names of those 'wonderful' red and white flowers. Everyone who loves flowers ought to try a bed of those two kinds together."

I echoed the wish, for anything more beautiful, when growing side by side, is rare indeed.

I am not always an admirer of sharp contrasts of color, but in this case the charms of either flower are enhanced by contrast with the other. As well attempt to paint the rose as to add anything new to the praises of that noble shrub, *Hydrangea paniculata grandiflora*. Everyone knows that no other shrub is so grand and massive as is this hydrangea, when in hot, dusty mid-summer it covers itself with enormous heads of clustered snow white flowers, and for weeks remains in striking beauty. Yet its greatest admirers must admit that the profusion of huge rounded clusters and the great masses of pearly white bloom, give the shrub a somewhat cold, heavy look when in flower. It needs a bit of warmth to thaw the ice of the dead-white blossoms, a touch of grace to soften the heavy outlines of the gigantic clusters, and this the montbretia supplies.

The montbretia, unfortunately, has never received the popularity it deserves. It is to many an unknown flower, but those who once grow it will never be without it, for it is one of those cheerful homey flowers that win a place in our affections. Its flowers are not large, grand or fragrant, but they are wondrously bright, the



HYDRANGEA PANICULATA GRANDIFLORA.

best varieties showing a radiant fire that fairly glows in the sunlight. They are not children of shade and sorrow; they love the sun, and never wilt beneath his warm caresses. Montbretias are said to be tender in the Northern States, necessitating a lifting each fall and keeping of the roots over winter by packing away in dry soil. Here, in Southern Missouri, they are perfectly hardy. They increase rapidly and should always be grown in large masses, as their pretty little blossoms are much more effective in masses than in single spikes. The best variety I have ever grown is *M. Pottsii*. The hydrangea bed of which I have spoken has a deep, wide border of this variety. I keep my hydrangeas in beds of rich mellow soil, as they do not bloom as freely standing in grass sod. This particular hydrangea is large and spreading, and the ground of the bed is always deeply shaded. Not in the least do the saucy montbretias mind this; they thrust their sword-like leaves through the bending boughs of the hydrangeas above and send out spike after spike of airy blossoms that fringe the hydrangea's white robe with scarlet and gold. Nature seems to have intended them for companions, for they bloom together and last nearly the same length

of time in beauty. I have tried various flowers as bedding companions to the hardy hydrangea but none of them have pleased me better than this unassuming little *Montbretia Pottsii*.

Pineville, Mo.

L. S. LA MANCE.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

THE different sorts of vines may be distinguished as creeper, twiners, climbers and trailers. Creepers are those which throw out adventitious roots from their stems as they climb, by which they attach themselves to the bark of trees or rough walls. Twiners rise by winding round and round objects with which they come in contact. Climbers rise by having tendrils which lay hold of twigs of trees or some other support or else by force of growth overlying small trees or some such support, and trailers are those that prefer to creep on the ground.

Celastrus scandens is one of our most beautiful native twiners. It is a wiry-wooded vine with handsome, glossy, pointed leaves, and in its native haunts twines so tightly around small trees as to kill them. Its flowers are inconspicuous and are succeeded in the fall by clusters of showy red berries, which, when they burst open, show their beautiful orange capsules. It is occasionally cultivated, but should be found in all collections of beautiful plants.

Iris hispanica can be kept in boxes of sand during the winter and planted out in the spring.

The botanical name of the Rose of Jericho or Resurrection Plant is *Anastatica hierochuntina*. It is an annual plant indigenous to the Egyptian deserts. When full grown it contracts into a round ball and is then tossed around by the wind. When it alights in the water or in damp ground it opens out and starts into growth. It is an annual and can be easily grown from seed. It is not hardy, but can be taken up and kept dry in the house and when it is wanted to expand them they can be placed in a saucer of water.

Double geranium *Bruanti* is the best variety of its color in existence and in habit of growth dense and compact.

Caladiums of the variegated-leaf class should be permitted to remain dormant in their pots until about the first of March when they can be shaken out and placed in pans of wet sand and put in a warm place. When the leaf stalks are about two inches in height take out the bulbs and pot them. If it is desired to increase them cut up the bulbs into single sprouts. Each will make a fine plant in a short time.

To grow the fancy leaved caladiums to perfection they should be given a rather coarse but well enriched soil, and an abundance of pot room. It is best, however, to start them in as small pots as possible and shift on into larger ones as they require it.

Fuchsias grow best in a compost of two parts turfy loam, one part well rotted manure and two pounds of bone dust to each bushel of soil. Mix well and use the compost rough.

The varieties of the fuchsia are numerous. Most all of our garden kinds are hybrids from ancestors introduced from Mexico and South America very many years ago. The first fuchsia, *F. coccinea*, being introduced from Chili in 1788.

When well grown the laurestinus is a very useful plant for the window garden. It is an evergreen shrub with pretty glossy leaves and

produces its flowers in clusters at the ends of the branches.

I favor keeping peach trees well cut back and opened up so that the interior of the tree can receive air and sunshine, and to enable the little twigs along the main limbs to perfect and ripen the fruit setting on them.

Othonna crassifolia is a splendid plant for baskets, even if planted alone, but too much water and shade will cause the leaves to rot and the plant will lose much of its beauty. Avoid this and you will be greatly pleased with it.

Cuphea platycentra, or as it is commonly called, cigar plant, is excellent for a center plant for a hanging basket. It forms a pretty little bush and has the advantage of being almost continually in bloom.

Next to giving a tree plenty of room, allowing it to branch low is most essential to its perfect development.

There are four months in the year only when the greatest display of flowers may be expected from trees and shrubs, viz.: May, June, part of August and September.

To insure as long a season as possible for cyclamens the plants should be divided and kept in two different temperatures. Those that are in bloom, or approaching that condition, should be given a temperature of from 50 to 55 degrees. Those that are to succeed the earliest blooming lot should be kept quite cool so as to retard them as much as possible. It is also advisable to air freely.

The elder, *Sambucus Canadensis*, is a very common shrub in moist ground and is one of the showiest of native plants under cultivation, the dark green massive foliage forming a beautiful background for the great cymes of white flowers which it produces. These flowers are followed by bunches of purplish-black berries. In cultivation it should be given a very deep well enriched soil, and it well deserves it.

Lilium candidum, the common white lily, will thrive in any fairly good soil, but in order to grow it to great perfection the soil should be rich, deep and moist, and after planting should not be disturbed for several years.

A good thrifty hill of White Spine cucumbers should produce at least two dozen first class fruits. By using care not to tread on or injure the vines when gathering the fruit they will be the more productive. A scratched cucumber will grow up deformed, and as long as the leaves can be kept unbroken and the vines undisturbed in gathering the fruit, the crop will be abundant.

The mulberry is a good tree to plant in the poultry yard. It is hardy and long lived and the fruit is popular with poultry. As the leaves are large it makes a dense shade, which is very desirable in summer.

The crown of the hyacinth bulb should never be covered with soil when potted.

Herbaceous hardy border plants are often propagated in the fall by a careful division of the plants, but unless one has the proper facilities for protecting the new made plants throughout the winter it is better to defer the operation until spring.

Deutzia gracilis is a very good hardy plant to pot for winter blooming, and *Iberis sempervirens* is a splendid white, to force for its white flowers.

A good hedge should be nearly four feet wide at the base and cut to a line at the top, that is,

a vertical section of it should represent, in outline, an equilateral triangle.

All scars on trees, made by pruning off large branches, should be painted over to keep out rain and moisture. CHAS. E. PARNELL.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

IF THE rose may be said to have a rival it is the chrysanthemum. Both are regal flowers, and while the rose has enjoyed unbounded popularity and esteem for ages, the chrysanthemum has achieved a deserving popularity in a comparatively short time. It is only a few years since this magnificent flower has been appreciated and its value as an ornamen-



CHINESE.

tal plant for fall and early winter blooming has been fully realized in this country, although for a much longer period it has formed the central attraction in the great floral exhibitions in Europe. It is but a few years since chrysanthemum shows were unknown in this country, but now the exhibitions of this immensely popular flower are each fall numbered by scores.

The chrysanthemum is not classed among the hardy plants, although it comes pretty near the border line. The writer has succeeded in wintering good plants in the open border in Central Maine with merely a generous covering of forest leaves and an abundance of snow, which remained until some time in April.



POMPON.

There are three leading classes of this flower; the Chinese, bearing large open flowers; the Pompon, quite the opposite of the former, with an abundance of small double flowers, and the Japanese, with fringe-like flowers.

The propagation and cultivation of the chrysanthemum is quite easy because the plants can

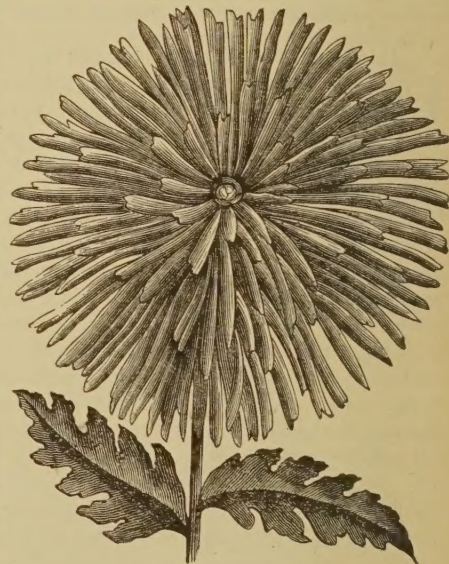
be quickly and readily raised from cuttings, and by dividing the old root stalks, and from suckers. Plants from cuttings are the best and the only ones which should be employed for specimen plants.

Those who make a specialty of this class of flowers grow them continuously under glass.



JAPANESE.

Good strong cuttings are rooted in May; the plants are potted in the smallest size pots, then changed to other sizes as the plants progress in size. In June or July the plants are set on benches, in soil five or six inches deep, the plants from a foot and a half to two feet apart. They are pinched back so as to give four to six stalks to each.

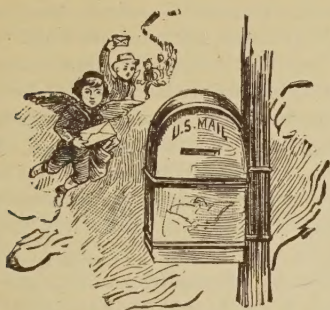


JAPANESE.

For outdoor culture, through the summer the plants may be kept in pots plunged in the soil, repotting once or twice during the season. When the nights become cool, in October or November, carry them to the house where they should bloom for several weeks.

Numerous new seedlings are being continuously produced so that varieties and forms multiply very fast. Over one hundred new seedlings were distributed last season and out of the lot more than a dozen ranked among the very finest sorts. Just so long as new types and new shades of color are produced just so long will the interest in the cultivation of this princely flower be kept up. L. F. ABBOTT.

THE inquiry which was made last month in "Our Letter Box" about hollyhocks has brought out several replies, some of which appear in this number, and a valuable one, received too late for publication, will appear in the next issue.



OUR LETTER BOX.

In this department we will be pleased to answer any questions relating to Flowers, Vegetables and Plants, or to publish the experiences of our readers. JAMES VICK.

Vick's Caprice Rose.

JAMES VICK:—In your August Magazine I see it noted that Vick's Caprice rose only bloomed once. Mine has already blossomed twice, once in May and again the first of this month, in fact the last blossom has just dropped. Everybody thinks it is the handsomest rose they ever saw. L. J. N.

Hemlock Lake, N. Y.

Cardoon and Artichoke.

JAMES VICK:—Please give directions for the culture of cardoon and artichoke in your valuable paper and oblige, FRANK H.

St. Louis, Mo.

Will not some of the growers of these vegetables give the proper instructions in full for raising them?

Blooming the Narcissus.

JAMES VICK:—I find so many of the readers of the Magazine complain of trouble in bringing the narcissus into bloom. I wish they would adopt my plan. Put the bulb into a shallow glass dish with shells and pebbles about it to keep in place and just water enough to reach the base of bulb, adding a little occasionally as it evaporates, and they will never have cause to complain again. MRS. R. V. B.

Williamsport, Pa.

Hollyhocks.

JAMES VICK:—I think I can help I. N. D. with his hollyhocks. I sow the seed about the middle of May in a shallow box, covering with a lath shade; as soon as the plants are large enough I transplant to the garden, setting the plants two feet apart; in the fall I transplant where they are to bloom, being very careful to have the bed higher than the level, as hollyhocks will not bear having wet feet during winter. I do not cover or give any protection whatever, as I find them entirely hardy in our latitude. G. A. G.

Buffalo, N. Y.

Resetting Pæonies.

JAMES VICK:—Will the editor please inform me which is the best time to reset pæonies, and if there is any danger of colors mixing by having different varieties bedded in clusters? MRS. R. V. B.

Williamsport, Pa.

Pæonies can be divided and reset in autumn or in the early spring. The month of October is favorable for the work. After replanting in autumn a covering of old manure placed over the occupied places will prevent the frost from heaving and throwing the roots as would otherwise be apt to be the case in the following March. There is no danger of mixing the colors of flowers by contiguous plants of different varieties.

Gloxinia—Hyacinth.

JAMES VICK:—It is always a pleasure to me to read of the experience of flower lovers, especially amateurs, and my experience and success may encourage some others. Last year I bought a packet of gloxinia seed, planted part of it, raised nine good strong plants, four have blossomed, all different, three are in bud and the remainder coming along nicely; it is now about a year since the seed was planted. In March this year I again bought one packet and planted a few seeds, from these I have seventeen good strong plants; the remainder I planted in May and from this planting have over three hundred about an inch in height. I do not know as I shall be able to keep them all, but would love to do so, as the flowers are very pretty, and it is so interesting to watch

for the new ones as they come into bloom. From a half dozen Roman hyacinths purchased from you last fall I had on Christmas seventeen nice spikes of lovely fragrant flowers. Of the two dollar bulb collection for outdoor planting I kept four hyacinths in the house, and from them had in March five spikes; those planted out blossomed finely early in spring. I think every bulb did its full duty. MRS. J. F. C.

Rockford, Ill.

Night Blooming Cereus in Winter.

JAMES VICK:—What treatment does the night blooming cereus require in winter? Can it be wintered in a dark cellar? I have one growing finely, but do not understand caring for it. MRS. W. H.

Otterville, Iowa.

If it is *Cereus grandiflora* keep it dry, or very nearly so, and in a warm room. Water can again be supplied in March. If it is a flat-leaved cactus, or phyllocactus, one of the night-blooming varieties, a little more care can be used to prevent the soil from becoming dust dry.

Amaryllis—Insects.

JAMES VICK:—Thanks to C. B. B. for kind suggestions about amaryllis, page 157. I reported all my rootless bulbs and placed the pots in the ground, and they are all right again. The bulb that I robbed of its bud because it had no roots was not to be cheated that way, and sent out four nice blossoms the last of June, and now has leaves two inches and a quarter wide. I hope they have forgotten to grow four feet high; it is most as bad as *Hyacinthus candicans*, that is five, only it is tumbled in a heap; I do not like leaves that can't hold themselves up. Before the amaryllis pots were set in the ground one was infested with those flies and grubs, and I thought I would experiment on it; I watered it with kerosene emulsion, and knowing that the young roots could not have had time to reach the sides of the pot, I dropped clear kerosene around the edge, very soon the grubs were dead. I was not trying to kill the bulb, so scraped away the moist soil and put fresh earth next the bulb. It has grown nicely for three months, the surface of the pot is full of live roots, and it shows no disposition to die. There is another fly, the larva of which is a small skipper that comes under the drainage hole in the flower pot; I used to pour boiling water in the saucer; if they come here again I shall try putting kerosene into the hole in the bottom of the pot with a hen's quill. I have often heard of ammonia for making plants grow. So, "once upon a time," having some aqua ammonia in water, instead of throwing it out of doors as usual I tossed it into a calla pot; in a few days the leaves began to droop and dwindle till there was little left of the plants and they were worthless. Last winter, for worms in flower pots, I tried sulphur, no less flies; then tobacco water, still the flies remained; then removed the surface soil which had them in, that gave a respite for a month, then a new lot of flies made their appearance. They seem to hatch out of the manure used for fertilizer in potting. Soot is said to be good for making plants grow. Once, for convenience, I steeped soot and tobacco stems in the same pail, when the water was used out the pail was set in a closet; towards spring there seemed to be a good many flies in the closet, and a search showed them just swarming out of that soot and tobacco stems. I quickly dumped some wood ashes into the pail and set it in a hot stove oven. L.

Gloxinias.

JAMES VICK:—Noticing a request in your Magazine that any of your readers who had succeeded with fine seeds should give others the benefit of their experience, I was today reminded to comply while counting the buds and blossoms upon one of my gloxinia plants. There are today upon one plant sixteen blossoms and forty-five buds, with other buds forming. This plant was raised from a leaf, but I have about one hundred plants of gloxinia which I raised from seeds sown about a year ago, many of which are just coming into bloom. A part of the seed I raised and a part I obtained from the botanical gardens belonging to Harvard College in Cambridge, Mass., while visiting them. In sowing all small seeds I have for many years followed directions that I found in Vick's Magazine at one time, and have always succeeded. The directions were these: Bake the soil to kill all vermin; sift it, to make it light and fine; sow the seeds carefully on the top while the soil is still warm, and then sift over them a little fine soil; wring a thick cloth out of very hot water and place it over the top of the soil and keep it watered

with warm water, the cloth will retain the moisture in the soil and prevent washing out the seeds when watering. Place the pot in a warm spot, like a mantle behind the kitchen stove, for a day or two, or until the first plant appears, when the cloth must be removed and the pot placed in the sun. By this process I have never failed. Last year I sowed in this way, as early as March, a paper of Vick's New Fringed petunias and raised twenty-five plants, and had a bed of the handsomest petunias I ever saw. My gloxinias are beautiful, in fact I never saw in pictures, or elsewhere, plants or blossoms that were larger or more perfect than are mine. They are grown in a very large bay window where they have the strongest sunlight and heat nearly all of the forenoon every day. I keep them well watered and fertilized—and there are pigs among plants—and they surprise all of my friends. So beautiful are they and so abundant the bloom, that the editors of the local papers have, in former years, repeatedly called the attention of their readers to them through their columns, consequently they receive many visitors. A. B. C.

Mass.

Treatment of Gloxinias.

JAMES VICK:—Will you kindly tell me the proper treatment of gloxinias? I have a lot of small ones from seed this season, and some older bulbs which have not bloomed for me; one budded and blasted last year—the top died early, and in February I set it in the light and watered it sparingly. Some time in June it grew, but so slowly that it will not get much size this season. What shall I do with it to hasten its growth? Others which I have grow slowly and show no signs of buds. A friend has two which with the same treatment I gave mine have given an abundance of flowers. MRS. W. J. W.

Brookfield, N. Y.

JAMES VICK:—From the description given by Mrs. W. J. W. of the treatment of her gloxinias it is difficult to decide with any degree of certainty why her plants do not bloom, since I do not know whether she includes the soil in which her plants are grown when she says that her friend's gloxinias, "with the same treatment, have given an abundance of bloom." A light rich soil, or compost, with perfect drainage is, I believe, a *sine qua non* in the successful culture of the gloxinia, while little pleasure will be apt to result from any attempt to grow this plant in a heavy sodden soil. A compost of one-half leaf mold, one-fourth well rotted manure and the remainder loam and sand, ought to prove satisfactory. A bulb will occasionally, without any visible cause, defer growth in spite of persuasion. I have lately, in August, discovered one of that class just putting up its velvety leaves. All other questions of soil, drainage, etc., aside, I have a suspicion that the trouble with the slow growing gloxinias of which Mrs. W. J. W. complains may possibly result from the thrips, which is the only insect that has ever given me any trouble worth mentioning in the twelve or more years during which I have grown the gloxinia. I know no other remedy than heroic treatment, *i. e.* cutting off the tops of the plants, taking up the bulbs, washing and rinsing them thoroughly, and putting them in clean pots and clean soil. This may look very depressing to one who is longing to see the beautiful flowers of this royal plant, but I know of no other reliable way of dealing with this, the most detestable of insects, and then it is wonderful how quickly the plants will spring up anew, as if glad to be rid of their tormentors. The thrip, which is a very minute insect, may exist unsuspected, because unseen, for a long time, but "by their works ye shall know them," and the affected plant will soon give evidence of the work of its inhabitants in shiny patches and rusty spots on the underside of the leaves and leaf stalks and about the calyx of the flower. A peep into the depths of a flower may reveal one of these lively insects not larger than a hair and so short that it would take many, if put in a line, to reach a quarter of an inch, but with activity enough in its small body to make up for any deficiency in size. Though dark colored, or black, at this stage of existence, they are nearly white in the still smaller state, during which they dine off the underside of the leaves making the shiny rusty spots which betray their presence. The remark, "one budded and blasted last year, the top died early," with the assertion that the plants grow slowly, causes me to suspect that the thrips may be at the bottom of all the trouble; otherwise, if the plants have proper soil and are kept where they have light, but not too much sunshine, I do not see why they should not thrive, though, unless the seeds were sown very early in the season, the seedlings would not be likely to yield many blossoms the first year. E. LUNEV.

Chinese Yam.

Inquiry is made how this is to be kept over winter. Dig the tubers, and after drying them off put them in a box of sand and keep in cellar free from frost until spring.

Star of 1891.

JAMES VICK:—Is this canna a plant of a size to do well in the house in a seven or eight-inch pot?

Dover Plains, N. Y.

MRS. F. I. R.

Plants which we had in pots last winter made a fine show all the season, being constantly in bloom.

Pampas Grass.

JAMES VICK:—How will I best hibernate my *Gynerium argenteum*, plant them in a keg and bring them in the cellar or put a barrel over them and fill up with leaves inside and outside?

Elgin, Ill.

C. W.

If you have a number of plants it may be well to try both of the ways proposed.

Amaryllis Mexicana.

JAMES VICK:—Please describe and give treatment for *Amaryllis Mexicana*. Does it differ in treatment from instructions given in August number?

MRS. W. H. W.

We are not acquainted with this species of *amaryllis*, but if any of our readers know about it and will give its treatment it will be interesting.

Amaranthus Sunrise.

JAMES VICK:—Of the plants and seeds I purchased of you in the spring the new *amaranthus* was the most beautiful. Had six of them on my lawn, and they soon began to turn red, until every leaf was scarlet. Hundreds of people stopped to see them and inquire what they were, as the shape of the plant was very much different from the old plants. I found them quite hard to start, but sowed in fine sand and garden dirt they will make a good start; also found they require rich soil.

Anna, Ill.

W. H. S.

Clove Pink—Easter Lily.

JAMES VICK:—Where can I get the seed of the old fashioned clove pink? I have looked over the catalogues but never can see what I think is the right name of them. If any of the readers of this Magazine raise them please let us hear through it. They are certainly raised in Pennsylvania or Ohio. I remember when that and the old hundred-leaf rose was all that was raised. I wish more of the subscribers of the Magazine would write. If Jane E. U. would just plant her Easter lily out of doors it would do all right. Mrs. W. P. W. gives us good information about the calla.

MRS. S. C.

White Worms in Pot Soil.

JAMES VICK:—In the current number of the Magazine A. S. W. speaks of white worms in pot soil. I notice frequent allusions to them in various magazines. My observations lead me to think them an effect, not a cause. I think they live on decaying matter. Quite often in removing a cutting which has failed and commenced to rot it is found infested, while healthy ones around it are unaffected, whether rooted or not. If a plant gets a check which causes its working roots to die and rot it is quite liable to attack, or if leaves and petals of flowers are allowed to fall in the pot and rot it makes a place they delight in. I think the custom of putting dead leaves in the pots, or poking them into the soil, as some writers advise, is a fruitful cause of trouble. What has been your experience with them?

Bolivar, N. Y.

W. P. C.

Success With Hollyhocks.

JAMES VICK:—In reply to I. N. D., Cincinnati, O., page 166, I would say that it is very simple and easy to raise hollyhocks. My method of successfully raising them is to sow the seed in the spring, and when the plants are from one to two inches high I transplant them into boxes containing not less than six inches of good rich soil, and allow four inches between the plants; then the boxes are set in an out-of-the-way place, not too much shaded, and water given freely; as winter comes on the boxes are placed in a pit or cold frame and left there till spring. When the growth begins in the spring the plants are set out in the garden where they are to bloom, and they soon make a luxuriant growth; nearly all will bloom that

season. Many people transplant them from the seed bed to the garden, but my experience proves this not practicable in this latitude, as they are likely to get winter killed.

H. C. T.

Wappingers Falls, N. Y.

Laburnum—Box—Saffron.

JAMES VICK:—Where can I get a root of the common English laburnum? Is it hardy in this climate?

Where can one get plants of the box once much used for low hedges?

Please tell me of the culture of saffron.

Findlay, Ohio.

MRS. J. R.

The laburnum is hardy in this climate and in Ohio. It, and the box inquired about, can be procured of nurserymen.

The commercial saffron consists principally of the flower heads of *Carthamus tinctorius*. The plant can be raised in this region by sowing the seeds in spring after danger of frost is past; they should be sowed in drills and be thinned out to two or three inches and be hoed and kept clean. The flowers, which bloom in July, should be gathered from time to time as they open and be laid away and spread out thinly to dry in an airy room. Care should be taken not to pile them up or leave them in thick layers. Warm, dry upland is suitable for raising the plants.

Auratum Lily.

JAMES VICK:—No lily has ever done as well for me as the *auratum*. I purchased the bulbs of James Vick more than twenty years ago. The first I paid a dollar and a half for; the bulb was small, the flower



stalk about two feet high, and had four lilies about the first of July. It was thought wonderful by all who saw it. I kept it three or four years; when one day walking in the garden I noticed a suspicious small hole just where that lily bulb ought to be; on searching found it was not there. I never forgave that mouse for making such a supper at my expense. The other *auratum* blossomed in September and had two or three lilies fourteen inches across. A few years ago the old bulb died and I replanted the young bulbs. Moles are troublesome in this garden, and for safety I set lilies in tin pails with the bottoms knocked out. The garden soil is a porous sandy loam, not quite rich enough, I thought, so I put fine wood mold into the pail for the lily bulbs. The next spring before the bulbs sprouted I found the pail was fastened down by tree roots; a greedy maple had sent a root no larger than a lead pencil and packed that pail tight with thread-like feeders; the bulbs were in danger of being choked to death. How did that tiny root know the way to that rich soil? Then I planted the bulbs in the shrubbery border, and that proved a good move. I set the top of the bulbs about eight inches below the surface, no water ever stands on this ground. When the stalks die I put on an inch or two of manure, generally from the hen roost, and in winter a few leaves, and boards over that. The stalks are five feet high, they blossom in August now. Last year there were sixty lilies, but not as large as when the number is less. I clip the seed pods as soon as the blossoms fade, and give water if the weather is dry at blossom time.

L.

Ants in Flower Pots—Worms on Hollyhocks.

Mrs. F. J. has an Ivy geranium which is visited by ants, and hollyhocks have worms on them. Our instructions for the use of kerosene emulsion are sufficient to guide one to the means of ridding the hollyhocks of the vermin. If one plant only is infested with ants it would not be difficult to prevent it, for having once rid the pot of them it might be stood on a piece of paper and a cordon of molasses drawn around it, which would effectually checkmate the little travelers. A ring of insect powder would have the same effect. A saucer could be provided in which three or four pebbles or pieces of slate or little blocks of wood could be used to support the pot and some kerosene be kept in the saucer; even some water in the saucer would prevent the ants reaching the pot.

Roses Not Opening—Mildew.

JAMES VICK:—Will you please tell me what is the cause of so many of the blooms on many roses not coming to maturity? They wither and die before they are half open. It is those that are most fragrant that suffer in this way most.

Also please say what I may do to destroy a mold that I find on many of my roses and many other plants.

H. E. D.

Cynthiana, Ind.

It may be that the mildew complained of is the cause of the buds not opening well. The soil for roses should be well drained and then made rich by a liberal yearly application of manure, and then they should not lack for sufficient water. Under these conditions there will be little complaint of buds not opening.

There is nothing better to combat mildew on roses than the sulphide of potash—one quarter ounce dissolved in a gallon of water. Sprinkle or spray the foliage with the liquid.

A Letter from Mexico.

JAMES VICK:—Your Magazine is a welcome visitor and gives us many helpful items. We find that the seeds and bulbs ordered of you do well in this climate. The Madeira bulbs you sent us last fall were not planted until spring, and it would gladden your florist's eye to see the luxuriant festoons covered with their fragrant feathery blooms that have grown from the tiny roots. Other plants have done as well. Some died after planting, but we are willing to try again. Please let me say something regarding the dahlia in Mexico. In one of your late Magazines I noticed the statement that they are a native of Mexico, and if double ones are brought here will soon become single. I do not know of other sections of this country, but here I have seen the handsomest double dahlias from old bushes of the most exquisite coloring and perfect in form. All varieties of flowers bloom to perfection here. During a recent trip up the mountains I discovered beds of the pink oxalis with beautifully variegated leaves. This is the home of the cactus family and we find many handsome varieties among the rocks, where very little else can find nourishment.

K. P. F.

Saltillo, Mexico.

Carnations from Seed.

JAMES VICK:—Last spring I ordered a paper of carnation pink seed (Italian seed); I have fifteen nice plants. Now the question is, must I take them in the house this fall or will they endure our Maine winter? If so, please tell me just how to care for them.

Bangor, Me.

MRS. J. R. E.

If you will take up the carnation plants with soil attached and pot them nicely you will have blooming plants for the latter part of winter and early spring. About ten days before time to remove the plants take a large carving knife and run it around each plant, forming a ball of soil somewhat smaller than the pot you intend to place the plant in. By doing this you cut off many of the roots and the result will be that many new roots will start out where every one is cut off, and when the ball is taken up it will have many fine roots developed on its surface,

and when potted these will immediately run into the new soil which is provided and placed about them. When taken up and repotted water the plants and then stand them in the shade a few days and afterwards give them a full exposure to the sun near the glass.

Mildew.

JAMES VICK:—I have no doubt that quite a number will be interested in the symptoms of mildew and therefore here offer a brief account, all taken from a practical work:

"Opinions as to the cause of mildew are varied and somewhat contradicting. My view is that mildew being a fungous growth, its seeds or spores are ever present in the atmosphere; and when a relaxed condition of the plant ensues, the minute germs find a suitable place for their development in the enfeebled leaf. Therefore I believe that anything that impedes the flow of the sap, places the plant in a condition to develop mildew. Thus we often see our roses without a taint of mildew during all winter and early spring months, until the hot, dry weather of the middle or end of May dries the soil in the pots to such a degree that the plant wilts—the sap is impeded, and mildew follows. Or a door may be left open and the frosty air fastens on the stems and leaves, congeals the sap, enfeebles the plant, and though from an entirely opposite cause, the result is the same. I once had a most marked example of this kind. Early in April we had an old fashioned lean-to greenhouse filled with roses in full leaf, in the very highest state of vigor. The house was some sixty feet in length and was ventilated by sliding down every alternate sash at the top. In ventilating on one occasion, the sashes had been neglected to be closed until so late in the evening that the roses exposed to the air had become chilled by frost so that the young shoots hung down as if wilted; as the greenhouse got heated up they recovered, and to all appearance next morning looked none the worse for being frozen; but in a week after mildew appeared in a clearly defined square space of about three by three feet, following almost exactly in the line where the plants had been frost-bitten. It would here seem that the leaves thus enfeebled by the frost simply afforded a congenial 'soil' for the mildew germs, which probably are ever present in the atmosphere. Had the sap been arrested by the roots getting dry in that condition of growth no doubt the result would have been nearly the same.

Like most other diseases, mildew is best met by prevention rather than cure, and for this reason, all care should be taken to avoid the extremes referred to as far as possible, to avoid great variation of temperature. Sulphur is applied in various ways to destroy mildew, but will often fail if the disease has gained much headway. The best way is to use it mildly as a preventive. This is done by boiling three pounds of sulphur and three pounds of lime in six gallons of water, until it gets clear, then pour it off and keep it in a jar, or bottle for use. One gill of this is to be mixed in five gallons of water and syringed over the roses in the evening. Applied in this weak state it does not injure the leaves, and yet has the effect of preventing, mildew seemingly cannot vegetate in an atmosphere or in a soil impregnated with sulphur. The above preparation is sulphite of calcium. Another method is to dust the leaves very lightly with 'black' or 'virgin sulphur'—the only reason this kind is used in preference to the ordinary yellow sulphur is that it is more volatile and can be used to give a lighter covering to the foliage, answering equally well and being less unsightly. We use one or the other of these methods once a week during spring or summer on our roses and thus keep almost entirely clear of mildew on all roses grown under glass. But the most common and efficient application of sulphur against mildew in the greenhouse after firing has begun, is to paint the upper half of the hot water pipes with a mixture of sulphur and cow dung, sulphur and guano, or sulphur and lime. Either of these ingredients will do to mix with the sulphur, the object being merely to give a body to the mixture. We also paint our steam pipes with these mixtures, but care must be taken not to have more than one-fourth of the steam pipes painted, else the fumes of the sulphur might be strong enough to injure the leaves."

This article will, no doubt, throw light into the mystery of mildew symptoms and will be valuable to many.

Hoboken, N. J.

G. F. M.

Propagating Carnations.

JAMES VICK:—As soon as I noticed the remarks very properly made by A. R. in the August number, I immediately reached for pen, paper and ink and wrote the following answer: However I am very sorry that my neglect to state what kind of cuttings I took should have made the further inquiry necessary, I will say in advance that I have tried all ways of making cuttings and it seems that I must have a magic hand, for they all strike root, no matter what part I take them from or how or when I plant them; it is the same way with myrtle, I have seen parties give them the best treatment but failed to raise them, where I just break off the slips and plant them in the propagating bench and in two to three weeks they begin to shoot up. Coming back now, to the

point where I stopped in my description of making carnation cuttings, I would say that I take cuttings from the specimens I have raised for winter flowering, but I would not advise to take them from old stocks as such plants are too much weakened by forcing. I take the shoots which appear along the flowering stem, and which appear as if they would not bloom that season, taking care not to take the ones right at the top for they are too soft or green to strike root and would die; but these can be taken later when they are a little hardened; the lower ones are very well adapted for cuttings. When I have a sufficient number I strip off the bottom leaves and make a horizontal cut at the bottom node of each, and the tops of the leaves are also cut back, being careful not to cut out the center or heart; cuttings thus taken are usually not longer than four or five inches, and are planted on the bench about two inches apart each way and about two inches deep. The propagating bench is just like a table built along the side of a greenhouse about two to four feet wide and the length of the house and about one foot and a half above the flue or pipes which are underneath the bench; the sides are also boarded up to maintain the heat inside, but one board must be on hinges throughout the entire length of the bench so it can be opened when the heat gets too intense. A strip or ribbon of wood about five inches wide is nailed along the edge of the bench or table, forming a guard about three inches above the bench. Sand of any kind is placed to the depth of three inches on the bench and firmly packed down and watered copiously. A thermometer is placed in the sand to indicate the heat. In regard to the temperature which is necessary for cuttings, I will give a small account taken from a practical work:

"The best degree of temperature to root cuttings of the great majority of greenhouse and bedding plants is sixty-five degrees of bottom heat, indicated by a thermometer plunged in the sand of the bench, and an atmospheric temperature of fifteen degrees less. A range of ten degrees may be allowed, that is, five degrees lower or five degrees higher, but the nearer the heat of the sand can be kept to sixty-five degrees, and that of the house to fifty degrees, the more perfect the success will be. If a much higher temperature be maintained, it will be at the expense of the ultimate health of the plants. These temperatures refer to propagation under glass from November to April. Of course, where the outside temperature is higher these temperatures cannot be maintained."

These are the rules by which I generally guide myself. After setting the cuttings they require to be watered every morning, for they should not be allowed to get dry; if they do get dry they wilt either by the heat of the sun or the fire, and a cutting once wilted its juices are expended. Ventilating is advisable as often as the weather will permit. When the sun heat is too great shade must be given to the cuttings; a little practice will quickly teach one how to manage a propagating bench. It is very hard to distinguish carnations and picotees, therefore it is always best to have them labeled and you will not be able to mix them together. The soil I generally use for potting carnations, roses, myrtle, etc., is two parts leaf mold, one part good enriched garden soil and one part sharp sand thoroughly mixed. The pots should have good drainage. As soon as the cuttings have struck root they can be planted as already described on page 119 of the June Magazine. Another good soil is that described in the August number on page 157 under the title "Soil for House Plants."

Hoboken, N. J.

G. F. M.

Plant Inquiries.

JAMES VICK:—What plants will be most satisfactory to succeed tulips? Shall I remove the bulbs as soon as done flowering? I have not this year but fear I have made a mistake. Shall I transplant garden hyacinths to insure best results? Must I transplant my *Lilium candidum*? Can you tell me why my lilies of the valley refused to bloom this season? I bought them a year ago of you, put them in same soil as prepared for tulip bed, a mixture of leaf mold, compost and sand; they blossomed every one that year, but this year I had only one blossom although they had spread nicely. Is the soil too tight? Do geraniums require a heavier soil than most other plants? What are the supposed effects of soot water, manure water and bone dust? Which are flower producing and which foliage? A. M. W.

Worden, Mich.

If tulips and hyacinths are raised in a mixed border, or on the margin of a shrubbery, it is not difficult to fill the ground, after they are through blooming, with annuals or shallow rooting bedding plants; and when so planted it is as well to leave them for a number of years without disturbing them. It is different where the bulbs have been planted in a formal bed; then it becomes necessary to remove them to make room for other plants. The bulbs should be removed by taking up some soil with each

one and disturbing the roots as little as possible. After digging out a trench some five or six inches deep in some suitable place, the bulbs can be transferred to it, with soil attached, and there be allowed to mature; when the foliage is quite dead the bulbs may be lifted and placed in a dry, cool room until wanted for planting in autumn.

Lilium candidum is a plant that does not like to be disturbed and should be allowed to remain in the same place for three or four years at least.

We cannot say why the lily of the valley inquired about did not bloom this season, but if the plants are healthy we should have no concern for them.

Geraniums are quite easy to please with soil, and adapt themselves to a great variety of it.

The manurial substances mentioned are all valuable for plants, but they cannot be classified as leaf producing and flower producing. As a rule whatever promotes the vigor of a plant enables it to bloom more profusely, though the blooming season may be postponed while the plant is making its strongest growth.

Best Cure For

All disorders of the Throat and Lungs is Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. It has no equal as a cough-cure.

Bronchitis

"When I was a boy, I had a bronchial trouble of such a persistent and stubborn character, that the doctor pronounced it incurable with ordinary remedies, but recommended me to try Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. I did so, and one bottle cured me. For the last fifteen years, I have used this preparation with good effect whenever I take a bad cold, and I know of numbers of people who keep it in the house all the time, not considering it safe to be without it."—J. C. Woodson, P. M., Forest Hill, W. Va.

Cough

"For more than twenty-five years, I was a sufferer from lung trouble, attended with coughing so severe at times as to cause hemorrhage, the paroxysms frequently lasting three or four hours. I was induced to try Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, and after taking four bottles, was thoroughly cured."—Franz Hoffman, Clay Centre, Kans.

La Grippe

"Last spring I was taken down with la grippe. At times I was completely prostrated, and so difficult was my breathing that my breast seemed as if confined in an iron cage. I procured a bottle of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, and no sooner had I began taking it than relief followed. I could not believe that the effect would be so rapid and the cure so complete."—W. H. Williams, Cook City, S. Dak.

AYER'S Cherry Pectoral

Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass. Sold by all Druggists. Price \$1; six bottles, \$5.

Prompt to act, sure to cure

VICK'S MAGAZINE.

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All communications in regard to advertising to Vick Publishing Co., New York office, 38 Times Building, H. P. Hubbard, Manager.

NEW 40-LB. OATS.—Very satisfactory reports are coming in from those who received free sample packages of the New 40-lb. Oats last spring for trial. We trust that none of those who raised them will neglect to inform us of the result of their test, or to give an opinion in regard to this variety. Later we expect to publish these reports.

HORTICULTURE IN THE LEAD.—The new County of Codington in the new State of South Dakota has organized a horticultural society. This speaks well for the future progress of that region, and we wish it every success. The residents of the county should support it liberally and it will prove itself to be to them a valuable aid aesthetically and financially.

DEDICATORY CEREMONIES OF COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION.—The formal opening of the great exposition at Chicago is to take place on the 21st of the present month, October. We can only hope that all things will conspire to favor the celebration of this grand event, and the grander one of four centuries ago which it commemorates. The intervening months until May, when the public will be invited, will be spent in finishing the work on buildings and grounds and receiving and arranging the multitude of articles to be displayed.

HOLLAND BULBS.—The probability is that the demand for Holland bulbs this fall will considerably exceed the supply. Already Roman hyacinths and some kinds of narcissus bulbs have become scarce. Expecting purchasers should send in their orders early, or be satisfied later to take what they can get. Our Bulb Catalogue has been sent to all who have made a request for it, and we hope to supply the greater part of the demand that may be made upon us for bulbs; nevertheless those who order early are most sure of having orders filled satisfactorily.

THE CAREER OF COLUMBUS.—A work of this title by Charles Elton, M. P., has lately been issued by the Cassell Publishing Company. It supplies a large amount of new and interesting matter relating to the life of the great discoverer

from his infancy to his death, a result attained by careful investigation of original manuscripts relating to the subject. The reader is brought into the closest intimacy with the daily life, thoughts and purposes of the subject of the biography. The work is admirably written and will please all readers, both old and young.

THE CHOLERA.—It is improbable that this disease will be very active in this country. Those who are living regular, natural lives, subsisting on pure and simple food, and are cleanly in person and surroundings have little to fear. No change should be made in diet by those habitually employing a simple and healthful diet. An excess of flesh food should be guarded against and that of grain, vegetables and ripe fruit form the greater part. The greatest danger is from impure water, but that can be guarded against by boiling it. A simple and nutritious article is boiled milk taken hot, and one absolutely safe from all disease germs.

EXPERIMENT STATION REPORTS.—We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the Tenth Annual Report of the New York Agricultural Experiment Station, for the year 1891, and also the Annual Report of the Maine State College Agricultural Experiment Station for 1891. Both reports contain a variety of valuable practical matter relating to agriculture and horticulture. The farmer, the gardener and the fruit grower will find these annual reports of the different Experiment Stations useful additions to his working library, assuming, as we do, that every intelligent and earnest cultivator today is a reader, and in his own line, at least, a student.

PRESERVING POSTS.—The practice of the following method is said to greatly increase the durability of fence posts, hop poles and grape posts: A pit is made of convenient size and depth and poles or posts are set upright in it. Lime is thrown in among the timber, and when this pit is filled water is poured on the lime, which is slacked, and of course generates heat, by which the water and air in the timber are forced out, and as the timber cools afterwards the lime water is absorbed into the pores of the wood. The lime has the effect of decomposing the albumen of the wood, and thus prevents its decay, to which the rotting of the timber is chiefly due.

A NEW EARLY GRAPE.—A new variety of grape has been brought out in Ohio and is claimed to be the earliest black variety known, being ten days to two weeks earlier than Moore's Early. The following description is given of it: Bunch large, compact and shouldered; berry medium, covered with a heavy bloom; leaves very large, thick, leathery; foliage heavy and perfectly healthy. Fully as hardy, or more so, than Concord. A vigorous grower, very productive, and of good quality. Berry adheres firmly to stem. One of the best shippers.

The originator is Mr. R. A. Hunt of Euclid, Ohio. The principal disseminator of it is the C. S. Curtice Co., of Portland, N. Y., and it is also offered by Wm. S. Little Co., of this city. This new variety is called the Early Ohio.

PEAR LEAF BLISTER.—The little leaf blisters which so many have noticed on the leaves of pear trees is caused by a very small insect or mite, the scientific name of which is *Phytoptus pyri*. The injury to the pear leaves from this

cause is said to be greatly on the increase in this country and Canada; the effect of the blisters is to impair the functions of the leaves with a result of hindering the growth of the trees and delaying the maturity of the fruit. The blisters or galls are caused by a puncture by the insects to deposit their eggs. The mite passes the winter beneath the bud scales along the shoots and punctures the leaves and oviposits soon after the leaves expand in the spring. The insect has been successfully dealt with by spraying the trees in the late fall or winter with kerosene emulsion, thus destroying them. This course should be adopted by all who have the pest to contend against.

BEDDING BEGONIAS.

DESIRABLE as it may be to use the tuberous begonias as bedding plants we fear that the time for their use in this manner is, at least, far in the future. Notwithstanding the announcements so confidently made last spring that a strain of these plants had been produced by careful selection which would prove satisfactory fully exposed to the sun in beds, a trial of them the past season has shown that neither the foliage nor the flowers are able to bear the full force of the summer's sun. The result has been that leaves have been scorched and shriveled, the plants unable to develop in any vigorous manner, and necessarily, as a result, few flowers, and these not fine ones. As a bedding plant with a full exposure, we are sorry to say, the tuberous begonia is a signal failure in this locality. If any of our readers have found it otherwise we offer them our columns to make the fact known. In warm, protected and shaded situations these plants will prove satisfactory, but for general bedding purposes they are not suitable. As veranda and window plants they are admirable and it is possible that some time hence some sun-hardy varieties may be evolved.

NITRATE OF SODA.

JOSEPH HARRIS, of Moreton Farm, Monroe County, N. Y., the well known writer on manures and other agricultural subjects, strongly advises the use of nitrate of soda on wheat. This is in line with conclusions reached in regard to this matter at different experiment stations. Prof. Plumb, Director of the Experiment Station at Lafayette, Indiana, says: "Nitrate of soda is at present not only a comparatively cheap source of nitrogen but in experiments the past season it was the most effective form of nitrogen for wheat. Those who drill in superphosphate with wheat in the fall should use from 100 to 150 pounds of nitrate of soda in the spring, sowing it broadcast. Nitrate of soda is advised for all early crops, and to push plants into strong growth early in the season. Mr. H. says he uses nitrate of soda on potatoes, barley, oats, buckwheat, carrots, beets, mangels, Swede turnips, tomatoes, asparagus, cabbage, cauliflower, celery, onions, parsnips, fruit trees, currants, strawberries, raspberries, peaches, grapes, etc. If anyone wants to know more on this subject let him write to Mr. Harris and we think he will get a reply containing the information desired; if he does not answer by letter it will be by printed matter. The gardener, the fruit grower and the farmer cannot afford to raise half crops; the profit is in the large crop, and the successful cultivator will be satisfied with no other.

"MOTHER."

What visions of a happy past,
That home-like word to me recalls;
On list'ning ears it gently falls,
Like music far too sweet to last.
E'en still the sounds I often hear,
Like echoes of a soft-toned lute,
Sweet whispers of a voice long mute,
Which brightened life with words of cheer.
When first I gazed, an infant mild,
I saw my heaven in her eyes;
As mist before the sunlight flies,
My troubles vanished when she smiled.
As wider, farther, ranged my eyes,
And I looked on the world around,
How strangely old seemed all sweet sound,
Soft wind, bright stars, and sunny skies!
As years roll on in heedless flight,
And I once more to heaven draw near,
Bringing sweet trust where once was fear,
And seeing all in truth's pure light,
I now can see that 'twas not strange
That nothing beautiful seemed new;
My Mother's face, my earliest view,
Reflected landscapes fairest range.

G. R., Glasgow, Scotland.

DOCTORING PLANTS.

LEAVES of plants when in a healthy condition are generally a deep green, but when they become diseased are a faded color. In a majority of such cases the faded color is caused by a lack or an excess of light. Fuchsias, farfugiums, ferns and such plants can not stand the full blaze of the sun all day, but like shaded places where a little of morning sun can be obtained. But such plants as geraniums like a great deal more light, although they will do just as well if not given the strong rays of the mid-day sun. When the discoloration is first noticed the plant should be turned out of the pot to ascertain the condition of the roots. If the plant is root-bound it shows a lack of nutriment and a larger pot and more soil should be given it. Where the roots are not of a healthy color it may be due to the soil or the watering. If the soil is dry in the bottom of the pot it shows more water is needed. But if the soil is in a sour, soaked condition it shows the pot needs better drainage, which is secured by putting about half an inch of broken crockery in the bottom of the pot. If it seems to be due to neither of the above causes it is probably due to the soil, which should be changed. A good plan is to splash the roots of root-bound plants in a pail of weak manure water. The leaves of tropical plants—oranges, bananas—turn yellow from a sudden change of temperature. This is occasioned frequently by the fire going out or the sudden change of the wind. In such cases it is well to withhold water for a few days or until a new growth starts. The water for plants should be of the same temperature as the surrounding air; cold water has often caused the death of valuable plants. It is good in its place but not for growing plants. When applied to frozen plants it has often saved the lives of many valuable ones, but never of growing plants. Plants with a crown, like the primrose, are often found to be rotting at the base of the leaves; this is caused by the water gathering at the neck of the plants. The remedy is to pull the soil up around the base of the plant, causing the water to run off. On the other hand plants like the azalea, with a mass of fine roots forming a ball in the center of the pot, often suffer for want of water; the ball of roots is so thick and heavy that unless the soil slopes towards the roots the water will run around the roots and do the plant no good. A good rule, which applies to nearly all plants, is that plants with thick, heavy foliage that starts from the roots of the plant, should have the soil slope away, while plants with thick, heavy balls of roots should have the soil slope towards the roots of the plant.

J. F. WOODWARD.

Easter Morning

Signifies a great deal to all Christian nations, and the custom of making special decoration of churches and homes at Eastertide is a very pleasing one and is increasing in favor with all denominations.

WHAT CLERGYMAN

Would object to such a display as below of the Glorious Easter Lily, banked against a cross of green or flowers.

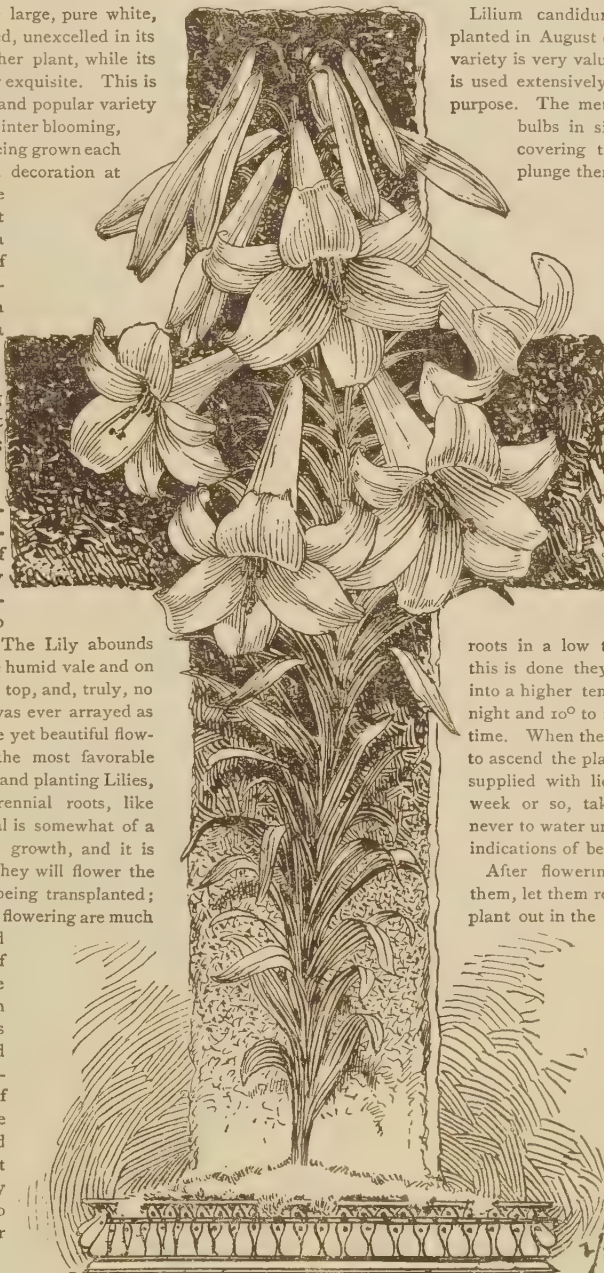
This lily, with its rare combination of *grandeur* and *chaste beauty*, is eminently distinguishable for its surpassing loveliness. There are several varieties that will force in the winter months, the best of which are *Lilium Candidum*, the emblematical picture of purity, the White Panicked Easter Lily, and the well known *Lilium Harrisii*, which is called

THE TRUE EASTER LILY OF BERMUDA.

The flowers are large, pure white, and trumpet shaped, unexcelled in its beauty by any other plant, while its fragrance is simply exquisite. This is the most valuable and popular variety in cultivation for winter blooming, many thousands being grown each season for church decoration at Easter. Plant the bulb in six-inch pot and by starting a few at intervals of a few weeks, a succession of bloom may be had for a long time.

Extra strong bulbs of largest size, 20 cents each; per dozen, \$1.50.

The Lily is a favorite flower everywhere, a Queen of Flowers, and only the Rose can dispute its claim to queenly honors. The Lily abounds everywhere, in the humid vale and on the lofty mountain top, and, truly, no earthly monarch was ever arrayed as one of these simple yet beautiful flowers. Autumn is the most favorable time for procuring and planting Lilies, as they have perennial roots, like trees, and removal is somewhat of a check upon their growth, and it is not always that they will flower the first season after being transplanted; but the chances of flowering are much greater if planted in the fall than if removed in the spring. Autumn planting affords time before hard frost for a considerable growth of roots, and we have often removed hundreds at that time with scarcely a sign of a check to either growth or flowering.



Lilium candidum does best transplanted in August or September. This variety is very valuable for forcing, and is used extensively by florists for this purpose. The method is to plant the

bulbs in six-inch pots, barely covering them with soil, then plunge them in the garden in a warm, sheltered place, and let them remain until the pots are well filled with roots, after which they may be removed to the house or conservatory, and will flower in eight or ten weeks. They can be planted until December 1st, but after November 1st they should be plunged in a cold frame.

The object is in all cases to get them to fill the pot with

roots in a low temperature. When this is done they should be brought into a higher temperature, say 55° at night and 10° to 15° higher in the day time. When the flower stems begin to ascend the plants may be liberally supplied with liquid manure once a week or so, taking care, however, never to water unless the plant shows indications of being dry.

After flowering, which exhausts them, let them rest, dry off and then plant out in the open ground. They will not do as well as if they had not been forced, but will throw out new bulbs, which will in time flower. In making a lily bed care should be taken to select a dry spot where water will not stand in the winter. A good mulching or covering with evergreen boughs in winter is necessary.

Each. Doz

Lilium Harrisii, new. The Easter Lily of Bermuda, large pure white, trumpet-shaped flowers, of great beauty and exquisite fragrance. Many dealers offer small size bulbs, we send out only the extra large size, 7 to 9 inches in circumference, 20 1 50

Candidum. The White Panicked Easter Lily, mailed, postage paid, on receipt of price, 10 1 25

Surprise Everybody Next Easter

By making an offering of two or three pots of lilies for decoration. The frame of the cross shown above can be made of wire netting or lattice work and covered with moss, into which flowers can be stuck, either wired on toothpicks or on their natural stems. GET YOUR ORDERS IN EARLY.

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A FIELD WALL.

Along the quiet dusty way,
Beneath the drowsy apple trees,
It winds among the roses gay
That lure the booming bees.
The Indian carrots round it nod
Among the tiger lilies tall.
And seas of dreaming goldenrod
About it rise and fall.
In harmonies of gray and blue
It climbs the sumach-dotted hill
Beneath the berry vines unto
A woodland cool and still.
Where friskily a squirrel gray,
Through shadows softly o'er it thrown,
Goes loping on his merry way
From mossy stone to stone.
—R. K. Munkittrick, in Harper's Weekly.

MADAME CAROLINE TESTOUT is a hybrid tea rose which is gaining many admirers. It is in the style of La France, but a better color; flowers are larger and it is a stronger grower and blooms more freely. These are strong recommendations and will make a great demand for the plant.

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GARDEN NOTES.
"DID you succeed with anything?" Yes, with geraniums. I set them in the garden in April, and for once they blossomed all summer. There were a few cold nights when they had to be wrapped up close, but they seemed to get ready to grow in less' time than they ever did when planted out a month later. It used to be quite a task to lift and pot them in the fall, and get them under shelter, and afterward down cellar. Now I have an easier way: Just pry them out with a spading fork, the soil falls off the roots; carry them immediately into the cellar and set them in the ground. The bottom of the cellar is coarse dry sand, so a good wetting is necessary after they are all in, and see that it does not get dry during the winter. The leaves soon drop off, but they do not need leaves down there. In spring I have only to pull them from the sand and plant them out again.

Before putting the sweet scented geraniums in the cellar I cut off all the leaves and dry them to put in a sofa pillow. Some of the stumps live and do well in the garden another year. There is a small window where some sunshine comes in during the afternoon, so they are never in the dark.

One autumn, having a lot of small cabbages that had failed to grow large enough to make heads, I planted them in this light place in the cellar. They grew nicely, and by spring had firm crisp heads.

This summer a clump of pink Japan lilies grew between four and five feet high, with a dozen or more buds on each stalk, and then began to die. Two stalks died entirely, and the leaves on the others. Last week I cut off the blossoms and gave them away, and dug up the bulbs. The base of the stalks looked badly, and I pulled them out of the bulbs and burned them. The bulbs looked clean and sound, and were planted in a fresh place; the bulbs from the stalks that died were all loose scales, decayed at both ends. On breaking open the dead heart of the bulb it was full of tiny jumping insects. Quickly closing it again I put it in the stove. Those insects, whatever they were, may be the cause of some other lilies dying. L.

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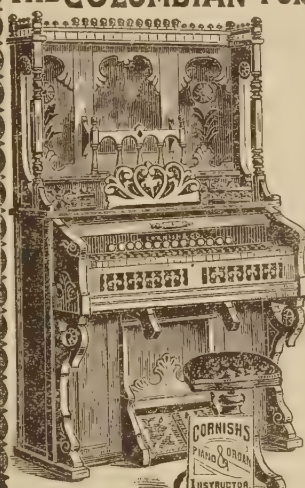
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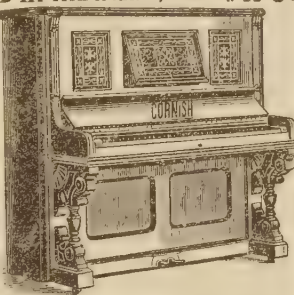
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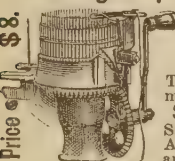
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THE RESTING OF PLANTS.

THIS is a very important point in the study of gardening. It too often occurs that when plants—especially bulbous kinds—have finished flowering they are removed into out of way places until sought for again. I am alluding now to amaryllis, begonias, gloxinias, and such like plants. It is certain that during the time of flowering there must have been a great strain upon them, so it becomes clear that to be successful year after year with the same bulbs we must pay great attention to their requirements immediately after flowering, so as to encourage them to store up sufficient strength previous to going to rest that they may, when started again in the spring, give full satisfaction. A careful study is requisite in bringing about a gradual state of rest, to which most plants are subjected by withholding water at the proper season.

The mention of amaryllises, as requiring especial care as to watering after flowering, should not be passed without comment. We all are aware of the wonderful progress that has been made in the development of this gorgeous family of plants of late years, and their growing popularity. This makes us anxious to know something more of their requirements. The plants have their season of growth after the flowers fade. The rapid production of leaf and flower from the bulbs seems to exhaust them so much that they shrink considerably by the end of March or beginning of April, and in consequence a season of growth should be encouraged from them until about the end of August, when the bulbs will be found to have plumped again. During that period the process of development is very rapid, and any check to the growth would not be easily recovered from.

In September we gradually withhold water. In October, November and December the plants are kept without any. In January the bulbs are plunged in gentle bottom heat, but we give no water for at least three weeks, provided the soil is moderately moist at the time of potting. I have found that an excessive atmospheric moisture in the house will engender decay of the bulb above ground, and the same process goes on at the base of the bulbs if too much water is applied to the soil.

To bring about a gradual rest in plants it becomes necessary to lower the temperature they have been growing in at the time the water is being withheld from them, but sometimes we are not fully aware as to how far we may go in the matter of low temperature until we have lost some of our plants by being kept too cold whilst at rest. Take for instance orchids, the East Indian section. To bring these to a state of rest we endeavor to maintain for them a temperature of 60° by night and 65° by day generally, from November till about the middle of February, a little air being given on every fine day to dry the atmosphere. The cultivator must study and apply the needful rest to others of this class, lowering the temperature in proportion as the case may be, considering the climate and conditions under which these are found growing, always being careful in applying water to the plants in the lower temperatures.

I believe there are more orchids lost by over-watering than from any other cause; although not showing it at the time, it will surely tell upon them afterwards. In their own native habitats we are told they receive a great deal of

rain during the growing season, but we must not forget how very different are our houses to their home. With us they are closely confined, and evaporation does not take place to such an extent as where they are growing in nature on rocks and trees, in positions where the wind quickly dries up the superabundant moisture. Thus we must study the importance of rest to this and other classes of plants, and imitate as near as we can the natural rest to which they are subjected.

In the case of greenhouse plants the resting period may or does extend from November to February, during which time we should maintain the temperature as near as we can from 45° to 50°, with as little fluctuation as possible. No doubt gardeners have noticed how azaleas are excited into growth in the winter months, and in many cases the buds are so weakened that they go blind. I believe this is caused by keeping the plants in too high a temperature, probably by excessive fire heat. This has such a tendency to dry the plants that frequent watering is necessary, causing the growth to start, much to the annoyance of the cultivator. The same thing occurs with camellias and many other plants. It thus becomes very necessary to watch closely the variation of temperature outdoors in connection with resting plants, as at times it may be 50°, or even higher, and we must then guard against any excessive amount of moisture about our plants. High night temperatures should, as far as possible, be avoided.

It should be remembered that in whatever position a plant is placed it should stand perfectly level, and on some material where the water may drain away freely. If the plant is not level the danger is that the soil on one side of the pot is dry and the other side wet, which is the worst possible condition for a plant to be in.

The action of rain water, whether artificially or naturally applied, has been proved to be by far the most beneficial to plants, as by its aid the solubility of food becomes more rapid. Guard against the application of cold or hard water to the roots of plants, and especially in the winter months, when there has been a heavy fall of snow, hail, or cold rains. The water in the tanks then becomes very much too cold. This may not be noticed in the ordinary course of things, and the plants are sure to suffer a check at the roots that, in the case of camellias, for instance, would be quite sufficient to cause bud-dropping. I am always very careful that the water in our tanks is a few degrees warmer than the house in which the plants are growing. This is very important in successful plant culture. We are apt to say sometimes on beholding a sickly plant—one mildewed or with rust on the foliage—that it must have been subjected to a draught or current of cold air, whereas the probable cause was the use of cold water, which paralyzed the roots. Proof of this may easily be seen by giving one or two application of cold water to winter cucumbers or kidney beans when setting their pods.—B. CROMWELL.—*(Read at the Liverpool Horticultural Association and reported in Jour. of Hort.)*

WHERE TO PLANT ROSES.

PROFESSIONAL rose growers say roses must not be planted by the sides of buildings, or where shaded. But a little use of my eyes for some few years has convinced me that they do best in those places. At least the finest

ones I ever saw—and I have seen them ten or twelve feet high and covering the side of a house—were in just such a position. We have some roses on the south side of the house where they have the sun nearly all day, and others of the same variety on the northwest side in an angle of the house and ell, under some plum trees where they are shaded till after eleven o'clock a. m. Those that are shaded during the forenoon grow to be larger bushes and have finer colored, larger roses, that remain in bloom much longer than those on the south side that have the sun most of the day; yet they are never watered, and do not have the care the others do because they are on the back side of the house where they are not seen. In my opinion the partial shade prevents the ground and flowers from drying up as rapidly as when in the scorching sun. C. H.

FLOWER INTEREST AT CHICAGO.

ALL plant lovers will be afforded much gratification at the great exposition with its varied and voluminous display of ornamental plants. The aquatic plants will form a marked feature, and work on the great tank is already somewhat advanced.

Lately some fine specimens of cactus have been in bloom. The *American Florist* mentions two large plants of *Phyllocactus latifrons*, one bearing eighteen the other twenty-two flowers. "It is a night-blooming variety, one of the strongest growers of the species. It is Mr. Thorpe's intention to make a special exhibit of night-blooming flowers; he is endeavoring to secure a large collection of these cacti, which will be most interesting in connection with the night-blooming nymphaeas."

Early blooming chrysanthemums are being prepared in time for the dedication or formal opening on the 21st of October.

A remarkably interesting collection of plants will be that of the species of eucalyptus from Australia. Except the blue gum, which is raised in California, the rest of the species will be new to most of the visitors, and even this species is known to comparatively few. This family of plants is known for peculiarities of habit, foliage and fragrance in its different species. *Eucalyptus citridorus* has prickly foliage with a strong odor like that of the lemon verbenia. Let us hope that neither disease nor disaster may interfere in the consummation of the great display.

GARDEN DESIGN.

WE have been favored by the author, W. Robinson, F. L. S., editor of *The Garden*, London, a copy of a volume called "Garden Design and Architect's Gardens," which is a criticism of two works which have appeared in England within the past year in opposition to the accepted taste of landscape gardening in what is called the "natural style." These works on the other hand put forth boldly a claim for what might be called architectural and geometrical styles. Mr. Robinson, as is well known in both hemispheres, has been one of the strongest advocates for many years of the "natural style" in gardening, and his writings have done much to spread a knowledge of the subject and to awaken and increase the interest in simple and beautiful gardens. In the present work he successfully attacks the vicious positions of the writers of the works alluded to and fortifies his own, as champion of natural gardening. The book is profusely illustrated with engravings of gardens in the natural style.

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3 Freesia. A very popular and charming flower for pot culture. Started early, will bloom by Christmas. The cut flowers will keep good for two weeks.

3 Crocus, Yellow, 3 Crocus, White, 3 Crocus, Blue, 3 Crocus, Striped. This harbinger of the joys of spring is too well known to need praise. They follow the frosts of winter.

6 Hyacinths, choicest mixed colors, and 4 Hyacinths, Double White Roman. These are the most beautiful, fragrant and popular of all the bulbs of Holland, equally good for forcing for Christmas or outdoor planting for spring.

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3 Narcissus, Bulbocodium or Hoop Petticoat. A distinct, graceful and showy plant, fine for winter flowering.

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- Single Red, Scarlet, Crimson and Gold Striped, 5 cents each, or 40 cents per dozen.
- Double Red, 5 cents each, or 35 cts. per dozen.

Unnamed Tulips.

- Mixed Single Early.
- Mixed Double.
- Bizarres, Violets and Roses.
- Parrots.
- Thirty-five cents per dozen.

Narcissus.

- Hoop Petticoat, each 10 cents, or three for 25 cents; per dozen 75 cents.

Polyanthus Narcissus.

- A fine collection of 15 Choice Named bulbs for \$1.20.

Double Narcissus.

- A choice collection of 6 separate sorts for 40 cents.

Single Narcissus.

- Poeticus, beautiful pure white, 5 cents each; six for 20 cents, or 35 cents per dozen.
- Jonquils, sweet-scented, 5 cents each; six for 20 cents, or 35 cents per dozen.

Crocus.

- Large Blue, White, Striped and Yellow, per dozen 15 cents.

Freesia.

- Refracta alba, 5 cents each; six for 20 cents, or 35 cents per dozen.

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IF I KNEW WHAT POETS KNOW.

If I knew what poets know
Would I write a rhyme
Of the buds that never blow
In the Summer time?
Would I sing of golden seeds
Springing up in iron weeds,
And of raindrops turned to snow—
If I knew what poets know?

Did I know what poets do,
Would I sing a song
Sadder than the pigeon's coo
When the days are long?
Where I found a heart in pain
I would give it peace again;
And the false should be the true—
Did I know what poets do.

If I knew what poets know,
I would find a theme
Sweeter than the placid flow
Of the fairest dream.
I would sing of love that lives.
On the errors it forgives;
And the world would better grow,
If I knew what poets know.

—James Whitcomb Riley.

THE LINE OF LAKES.

The above name has been applied to the Wisconsin Central Lines on account of the large number of lakes and summer resorts tributary to its lines. Among some of the well-known summer resorts are Fox Lake, Ill., Lake Villa, Ill., Waukesha, Mukwonago, Cedar Lake, Neenah, Waupaca, Fifeield, Butternut and Ashland, Wis. These lakes abound in numerous species of fish, such as black bass, rock bass, pickerel, pike, perch, muskallonge, while sportsmen will find an abundance of game, such as ducks, geese, quail, snipe, etc. In the grandeur of her scenery, the charming beauty of her rustic landscapes and the rare perfection of her summer climate, the State of Wisconsin is acknowledged to be without a peer in the Union. Her fame as a refreshing retreat for the overheated, careworn inhabitants of the great cities during the midsummer months, has extended southward as far as the Gulf of Mexico and eastward to the Atlantic.

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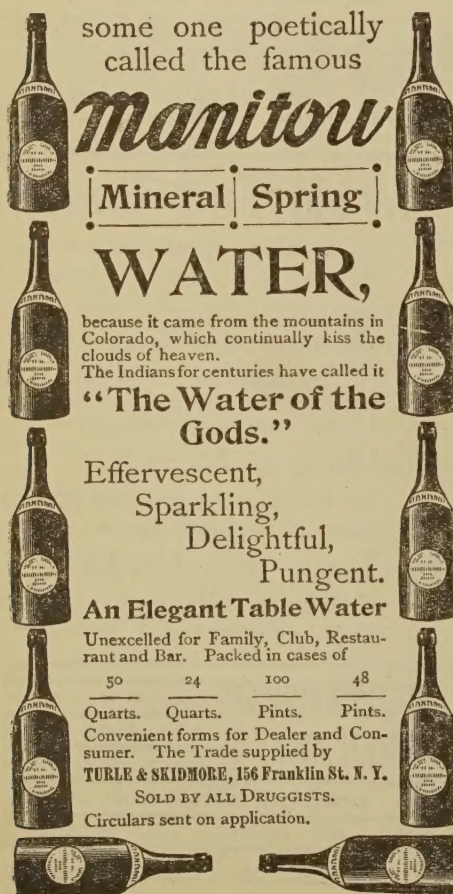
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These curious creatures, which are in all shades of colors, remind one of a beautiful flower bed. To the sight they are perfect flowers, but on the approach of a hand or a stick they retire out of sight. Close examination shows that the middle of the flower-like disc is provided with four filaments which move around the "petals" with a brisk, spontaneous motion. Each of these filaments is provided with pinchers for seizing prey, says the *Philadelphia Press*.

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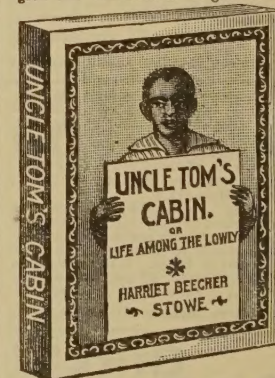
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